



UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA

INTERNATIONAL ONLINE CONFERENCE

RESTORING PEATLANDS FOR CLIMATE

20 to 21 October, 2021 | Final programme

photo: Mara Pakalne

Dear colleagues,

we are pleased to invite you to take part in an online international conference on peatlands and climate. The conference is co-organised by the University of Latvia and NABU within the frame of the EU project “Reduction of CO2 emissions by restoring degraded peatlands in Northern European Lowland” (LIFE Peat Restore, LIFE15 CCM/DE/000138). The aim of the conference is to bring together professionals of peatland policy, restoration and researchers, to share knowledge and experience, and discuss the next steps for peatland protection and restoration.

THE CONFERENCE WILL FOCUS ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- Role of peatlands in climate change mitigation
- Greenhouse gas measurements and indirect assessment methods and their development, with special emphasis on GEST approach
- Peatland restoration for climate and biodiversity
- Experiences from different countries
- Monitoring of restoration success
- Peatland policy, with a focus on peatland restoration strategies

- The conference will be equipped with virtual rooms for **poster presentations** (including the possibility of short video presentations)
- After each presentation, there will be time for **Q&A** from the audience (3-5 minutes)
- In addition, two short films will be launched focusing on restoration techniques and the role of peatlands in climate change mitigation
- Participants are also welcome to visit the virtual rooms for the photo exhibition *Peatlands and Climate*, as well as poster presentations
- The final programme with all speakers is on the next pages

LIFE Peat Restore

Climate change mitigation by means of rewetting peatlands

Together with nine partners from Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, the LIFE Climate Mitigation project “Peat Restore” was established in 2016. In five years the project has rewetted ca. 5,300 ha of degraded peatlands, created guidelines for peatland restoration and management, tested techniques for Sphagnum farming on bare peat, as well as floating islands on a former extraction area covered by a waterbody. To estimate the climate effect of the restoration measures LIFE Peat Restore applied the Greenhouse Gas Emission Site Types (GEST) approach and the direct GHG measurements with the chamber system. Additionally, the project has been dedicated to raising public awareness with events, booklets, panel discussions, photography exhibitions and short films.



www.life-peat-restore.eu/en

FIRST DAY: 20 OCTOBER - ADMITTANCE STARTS AT 9:00 AM (CET)

09:30 am (CET) **Welcoming words**
Jörg-Andreas Krüger, NABU president

SESSION I EVALUATION OF CLIMATE IMPACTS AND PEATLAND MONITORING

09:40 am (CET) **LIFE Peat Restore project – Climate change mitigation by restoring peatlands in North European Lowland**
Letícia Jurema, NABU – Naturschutzbund

10:00 am (CET) **Greenhouse Gas Emissions of degraded peatlands in Northeastern Europe**
Andreas Herrmann, NABU – Naturschutzbund

10:20 am (CET) **GHG observations and modelling at Finnish peatlands**
Tuula Alto, Finnish Meteorological Institute

10:40 am (CET) **Drainage impact on peatland greenhouse gas fluxes: Suursoo-Leidissoo case**
Anna-Helena Purre, Tallinn University

11:00 am (CET) **COFFEE BREAK**

11:15 am (CET) **Vegetation as a proxy for GHG emissions from peatlands: an update of the GEST list**
Felix Reichelt, DUENE e.V., partner in the Greifswald Mire Centre

11:35 am (CET) **Application of the GEST approach in the LIFE Peat Restore project sites**
Jonathan Etzold, NABU – Naturschutzbund; Leonas Jarašius, Lithuanian Fund for Nature

11:55 am (CET) **New assessment method of greenhouse gas emissions for peatlands by the combination of GEST approach and airborne remote sensing data**
Rūta Abaja, Institute for Environmental Solutions, Latvia

SESSION II PEATLAND RESTORATION

12:15 pm (CET) **Restoring large drained calcareous fen diverged into habitat complex – conflicts and challenges**
Mati Ilomets, Tallinn University

12:35 pm (CET) **Experience in restoration of post-harvested peatlands**
Nerijus Zableckis, Lithuanian Fund for Nature

12:55 pm (CET) **LUNCH BREAK**

FIRST DAY: 20 OCTOBER

02:00 pm (CET)	Raised bog and fen restoration in Latvia Māra Pakalne, University of Latvia
02:20 pm (CET)	Polish experiment in the application of methods of peatland restoration and climate protection Iza Chlost, Klub Przyrodników; Katarzyna Bociąg, Klub Przyrodników; Paweł Pawlaczyk, Klub Przyrodników
02:35 am (CET)	Peatland restoration experience from Denmark Niels Riis, NaturRådgivningen
02:55 pm (CET)	Experience of mire restoration and monitoring in the Šumava National Park Iva Bufkova, Šumava National Park
03:15 pm (CET)	Care-Peat – Restoring the carbon storage capacity of peatlands Chris Field, Manchester Metropolitan University

SESSION III PEATLAND POLICY, FINANCING AND USE

03:35 pm (CET)	Peatland Restoration Policy and Socio-Economic Models Relating to GHG Emissions Niall Ó Brolchain, Insight Centre for Data Analytics at NUI Galway
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03:50 pm (CET) COFFEE BREAK

04:05 pm (CET)	CANAPE: Reducing wetland GHG emissions and creating a sustainable economy Harry Mach, Interreg CANAPE Project
04:25 pm (CET)	The UK Peatland Code, Investing in peatlands from bankers to bogs Dr. Renée Kerkvliet-Hermans, IUCN UK Peatland Programme
04:45 pm (CET)	Transitioning to new business models: socio-economic barriers and enablers of rewetting Dr. Nina Röhrig, Philipps-University Marburg
05:05 pm (CET)	Paludiculture in the Baltic countries – Challenges and solutions for upscaling of peatland rewetting and peatland carbon farming Andreas Haberl, Michael Succow Foundation

05:30 pm (CET) onwards DIGITAL PEATLAND LOUNGE FOR NETWORKING

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SECOND DAY: 21 OCTOBER - ADMITTANCE STARTS AT 9:00 AM (CET)

- 09:30 am (CET) **Welcoming words**
Anja Salzer, Moderator of the conference
- 09:40 am (CET) **Getting out of the silo – peatlands on society’s top agenda**
Keynote from Tom Kirschey, NABU – Naturschutzbund
- 09:55 am (CET) **Peatland Restoration – for climate, nature and people – a global perspective**
Keynote from Dianna Kopansky, Global Peatlands Initiative

PANEL I PEATLAND RESTORATION STRATEGIES – NATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

- 10:10 am (CET) **Live discussion**
Nerijus Zableckis (Lithuanian Fund for Nature), Niall Ó Brolchain (Insight Centre for Data Analytics at NUI Galway), Paweł Pawlaczyk (Klub Przyrodników), Stefan Versweyveld (Natuurpunt), Anja Salzer (Moderator)

11:15 am (CET) **COFFEE BREAK**

- 11:50 am (CET) **Current developments in EU and Member States policy frameworks and implications for peatlands**
Keynote from Jan Peters, Michael Succow Foundation

PANEL II PEATLAND RESTORATION STRATEGIES – EU PERSPECTIVES

- 12:00 pm (CET) **Live discussion**
Jan Peters (Michael Succow Foundation), Tom Kirschey (NABU – Naturschutzbund), Jakub Wejchert (European Commission), Mechthild Caspers tbc (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety), Anja Salzer (Moderator)

01:05 pm (CET) **END OF THE CONFERENCE**

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE UNTIL 18 OCTOBER: WWW.NABU.DE/FINAL-LIFE-PEAT-RESTORE



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